

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/605,068

Examiner

Stephen Gordon

Applicant(s)

SVENDSEN ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 3-25-05 papers.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2,6,7 and 10-12.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 05 September 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. Newly submitted claims 13 and 14 are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed for the following reasons: see detailed restriction in paragraphs 2-6 below.

Since applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented invention, this invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, claims 13-14 are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. See 37 CFR 1.142(b) and MPEP § 821.03.

2. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 10, 2, 6-7, and 11-12, drawn to the apparatus of the originally filed claims, classified in class 293, subclass 117.
- II. Claims 13-14 as newly filed, drawn to a method of assembling, classified in class 29, subclass 592+.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

3. Inventions II and I are related as process of making and product made. The inventions are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the process as claimed can be used to make other and materially different product or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process (MPEP § 806.05(f)). In the instant case the process as claimed can be used to make

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another and materially different product such as one not requiring at least a stiff, force-absorbing beam per se and/or a front module as such.

4. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

5. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

6. Applicant is reminded that it is the evidence claims that are relied upon for purposes of restriction.

7. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for the examiner's amendment to claim 12 was given in a telephone interview with Tracey Druce on 4-12-05.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 12 – line 1, “second” has been replaced with –first–; line 2, --second—has been inserted before “male”; line 2, --second—has been inserted before “handle”; line 2, --second—has been inserted before “head”; line 3, --second—has been inserted before the first occurrence of “handle”; line 3, --second—has been inserted before “head”; line

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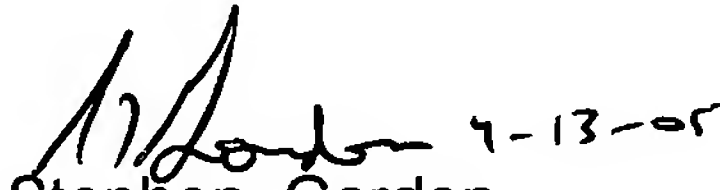
3, --second—has been inserted before “rear”; line 3, --second—has been inserted before the second occurrence of “handle”; line 3, --second—has been inserted before “male”; line 4, “first” has been replaced with --second--; line 4, --second—has been inserted before “female”; line 6, --second—has been inserted before “head”; line 6, a comma has been inserted after “head”; line 6, --second—has been inserted before “female”; line 6, “first” has been replaced with --second--; line 7, --of the second female part—has been inserted after “opening”; line 7, --second—has been inserted before “contact”; line 8, --second—has been inserted before “handle”; line 8, --second—has been inserted before “male”; line 8, --second—has been inserted before “rear”; line 8, --second—has been inserted before the second occurrence of “contact”; line 9, “first” has been replaced with --second--.

Non-elected claims 13-14 have been canceled to place the application in condition for allowance.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen Gordon whose telephone number is (571) 272-6661. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

 9-13-05
Stephen Gordon
Primary Examiner
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stg